

Date:

# Editorials

## Decentralizing Intelligence

A SHAKE-UP of the Central Intelligence Agency has been expected for some time, and apparently it is to take the form of a separation of the agency's intelligence gathering and evaluation functions.

A new civilian official will act as the chief intelligence evaluator for the President, although the CIA presumably would continue its present world-wide intelligence gathering and analysis functions, according to a story by New York Timesman Cabell Phillips.

The job reportedly has been offered to Fowler Hamilton, a Wall Street lawyer with many years of public service, although no experience in intelligence work. He would replace present CIA director Allen Dulles who for some time has been ready to step out. Mr. Hamilton is formerly from Missouri and, in a small way, was connected with the Symington-for-President campaign.

What the proposed reorganization means is that the CIA would no longer enjoy primacy among the various intelligence-gathering

agencies.

At the same time, the Pentagon has plans to organize a new agency, known as the Defense Intelligence Agency, to largely supersede the existing intelligence arms of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

While the name of the new Pentagon unit seems to depote a certain lack of imagination—the DIA and the CIA are almost certain to become fodder for Washington wags—there would seem to be merit in a unification of armed services intelligence units, except at the tactical or battle level.

The Central Intelligence Agency has taken an unmerciful buffeting in recent months. But so will any man or agency identified with the intelligence functions whenever some policy based upon intelligence received goes awry.

One thing is certain. The CIA must not again be allowed to become a little Pentagon or paramilitary organization not only gathering intelligence data but interpreting it and acting upon it by its own lights, with little or no scrutiny from without.